

ABSTRACT

A contact potential difference battery and method of application. The battery includes at least two different materials having different Fermi levels and electrically coupled together. A radiation source is disposed near the two materials and an ionizable gas is present therebetween. The radiation emitted by the radiation source ionizes the gas causing the ions to strike the two materials and cause an electric current flow in the circuit. This battery can also be used in groups to multiply current and can also be coupled to a microelectric circuit for providing power needs.